

## California Public Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

## Media Advisory

Docket #: A.04-01-009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

## PUC TO HOLD TOWN HALL MEETING REGARDING PG&E'S DIABLO CANYON STEAM GENERATOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 14, 2005 – The California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will hold a Town Hall meeting regarding Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) proposed replacement of steam generators at its Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP) on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2005, from 7 – 9 p.m. at the San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., in San Luis Obispo.

Commissioner Geoffrey F. Brown is holding this Town Hall meeting to provide the public an opportunity to comment on PG&E's request. Comments from the public can help the Commission reach an informed decision and members of the public are encouraged to attend the Town Hall.

If special arrangements are needed, such as sign and foreign language interpreters, please contact the PUC Public Advisor's Office at 415-703-2074 or toll free 1-866-849-8390 or TTY 415-703-5282 or 1-866-836-7825, or by e-mail at public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov at least three days prior to the event.

For those who are unable to attend in person, written comments may be submitted to the following address:

California Public Utilities Commission David Gamson 505 Van Ness Ave., Room 5214 San Francisco, CA 94102

Or, comments may be sent via e-mail to DMG@cpuc.ca.gov. Please refer to proceeding number A.04-01-009.

## **Background**

PG&E has filed an application with the PUC to replace the steam generators at DCPP Units 1 and 2. The project would enable DCPP to remain in service until the end of the current terms of the

California Public Utilities Commission 02/14/05

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licenses. The current licenses authorize DCPP Unit 1 to operate until 2021 and Unit 2 to operate until 2025. However, the existing steam generators have exhibited degradation and they are currently predicted to reach the end of their operating life within the next several years. The original steam generators will eventually reach a state where, under applicable NRC regulations, either the steam generators must be replaced or the units must be shut down.

DCPP Units 1 and 2 went into operation in 1985 and 1986, respectively. DCPP uses eight steam generators, four per unit, which are large heat exchangers that convert heat from the reactor into steam to drive the turbine generators and produce electricity. All eight would be replaced as part of the proposed project. DCPP produces a combined nominal 2,220 net megawatts of electric power, enough to power over 2 million homes.

For more information on the PUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

###